



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

**Jeffrey W. Cown, Director**

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**Watershed Protection Branch**

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Suite 1470A, East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
404-463-1511

May 2, 2024

Honorable Eartha Cummings, Mayor  
City of Tennille  
P.O. Box 145  
Tennille, Georgia 31089

RE: ARPA Grant No. GA-0007475  
Tennille Water Pollution Control Plant Expansion  
Notice of No Significant Impact  
NPDES Permit No. GA0039357  
EPD # 2023-190  
Washington County, Oconee River Basin

Dear Mayor Cummings:

Attached is a copy of a *Notice of No Significant Impact (NONSI)* prepared for the above-referenced project. The public comment period for this NONSI is 30 days. **Please ensure that the NONSI is posted at a conspicuous location at the City for public review for 30 days from the date of this letter.** Within ten days of receiving this, please notify us where and what date the NONSI was posted.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (470) 524-0657 or [alex.gramling@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:alex.gramling@dnr.ga.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alex Gramling".

Alex Gramling  
Municipal Permitting Unit  
Wastewater Regulatory Program

Attachment: NONSI

cc: Governor's Office of Budget and Planning (OPB) – Grants Division ([grants@opb.georgia.gov](mailto:grants@opb.georgia.gov))  
David Luker, RSM US ([david.luker@rsmus.com](mailto:david.luker@rsmus.com))  
Mayor Eartha Cummings, City of Tennille ([tennillecitymayor@gmail.com](mailto:tennillecitymayor@gmail.com))  
Mike Wiggins, City of Tennille ([mwiggins@tennille-ga.gov](mailto:mwiggins@tennille-ga.gov))  
David Tyre, Turnipseed Engineers ([dtyre@turnipseed.com](mailto:dtyre@turnipseed.com))  
Alicia Addenbrook, Turnipseed Engineers ([aaddenbrook@turnipseed.com](mailto:aaddenbrook@turnipseed.com))



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

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**EPD Director's Office**  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Suite 1456, East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
404-656-4713

**NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT  
TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS**

The City of Tennille has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Office of Budget and Planning for a grant through the State American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The project consists of increasing the treatment capacity of the existing Tennille Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) to 1.0 MGD. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Clean Water Act, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name: City of Tennille  
Water Pollution Control Plant Expansion  
ARPA Grant No. GA-0007475

Project Location: City of Tennille, Washington County, GA

Total Project Cost: \$14,001,258

Anticipated ARPA Grant Amount: \$11,981,898

**Project Description**

The City of Tennille proposes to expand the design capacity of the Tennille WPCP from 0.45 MGD to 1.0 MGD. The expanded facility will be permitted to discharge 0.75 MGD of treated wastewater in Buffalo Creek at the existing outfall. The City is currently authorized to discharge to Buffalo Creek under NPDES Permit No. GA0039357. There will not be any increase in pollutant loadings as a result of this project. The new facility will include an influent pump station, headworks improvements, sequential batch reactor (SBR), equalization, tertiary filtration, and UV disinfection. Sludge will be and dewatered using a dewatering container before being transported to a landfill.

**Anticipated Impacts**

The proposed project will serve the City of Tennille. The project will reliable treatment and effluent quality for the future population and/or industrial customers. Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction.

The project will not be located in the 100-year floodplain as indicated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map.

The project will take place primarily on City property (or right-of-way) and/or previously disturbed land and no impacts to existing buildings are anticipated as a result of the project.

The current rates for wastewater are not anticipated to increase as a result of the project.

No anticipated adverse secondary impacts are associated with the project. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made.

The reason for the decision not to prepare such a statement is as follows: Project activity is not anticipated to result in adverse environmental impacts beyond those that can be easily mitigated with minimal extra expense or delay in project implementation.

### **Public Notice**

A public information meeting was held on March 31, 2023 at the Tennille Fire Department to discuss the proposed project. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day advertisement period or during the meeting.

An Environmental Review Record concerning the proposed project has been made by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division that documents the environmental review of the project and provides more detail explaining why an environmental impact statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Division's address listed below. A copy of the Environmental Review and Planning Document (ERPD) is available for public review upon request at Tennille City Hall during business hours and at the Division between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

No further environmental review of this project is proposed to be conducted prior to the release of loan funds.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments within 30 days of the issuance date of this notice via email to [alex.gramling@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:alex.gramling@dnr.ga.gov) or to the following address:

Alex Gramling  
Environmental Protection Division  
Wastewater Regulatory Program  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Suite 1470A East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

After evaluating the comments received, a final decision regarding the loan will be made. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Notice.

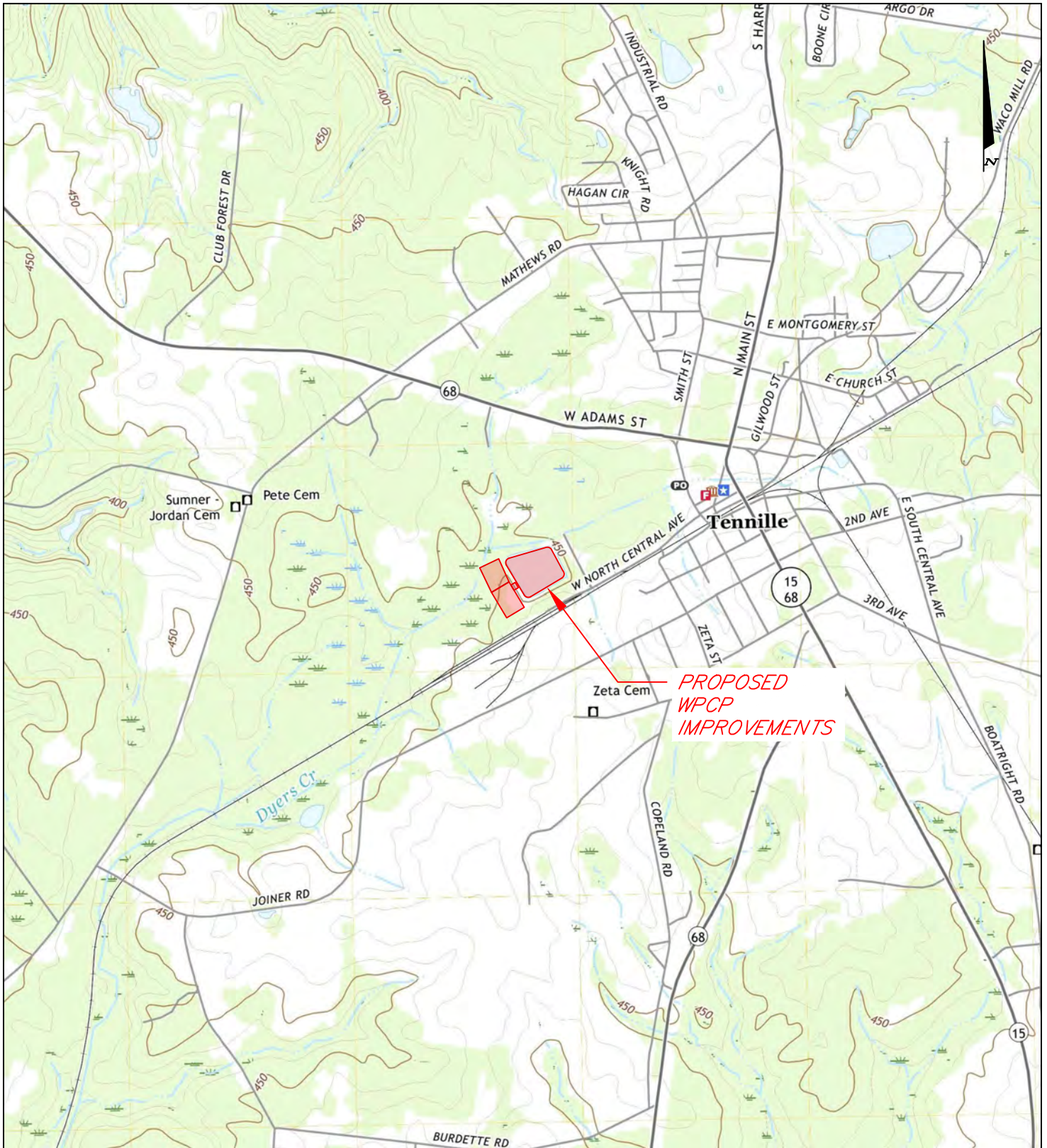
Loan Recipient: City of Tennille  
Post Office Box 145  
Tennille, GA 31089

Issue Date: 05/02/2024



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Jeffrey W. Cown  
Director  
Environmental Protection Division



**PROPOSED  
WPCP  
IMPROVEMENTS**

EXHIBIT II

CITY OF TENNILLE, GEORGIA  
WPCP IMPROVEMENTS

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

SCALE: AS SHOWN      DATE: NOVEMBER 2022



ATLANTA  
AUGUSTA  
ST. SIMONS ISLAND

